

When the Kentucky Legislature passed the act, the abolitionists now possess will be of essential service to them hereafter, in their efforts to bring about the redemption of their Commonwealth from bondage. The highest views are, by far, the most potent. Indeed, there are but few who can be relied on, in a contest against slavery, among those who confine their opposition to the system to economic views. You must arouse the conscience—you must have your appeals on truth, and right, and justice, or your converts will be but few and unreliable. Henceforth, although Kentucky Emancipationists may resort to political economy as one of the armories from which to draw weapons to be used in their contests with pro-slavery men, yet their reliance will be on far higher considerations.

There never was a cause which made more rapid progress over as great obstacles in so short a

period. The Emancipationists of Kentucky are satisfied that they can succeed in effecting the deliverance of their State from slavery, and it is the resolution of those with whom we have exchanged opinions, to fight on. They do not regard the result of the recent election as a defeat, as they had not the remotest expectation of gaining a victory, and did not contend for one. It is a great point, in a slave State, to establish the right of discussion in relation to all subjects. Pro-slavery men fear discussion. They will talk earnestly, and almost beseechingly, to you, of the evils of agitation. They will say it will render the slaves dissatisfied, and provoke a hot spirit of revenge in their bosoms toward masters. But the great, though secret objection to discussion is, that it hinders the progress of the cause, and hence the great haste with which they adopted all of Elwood Fisher's flimsy arguments, and all of the Kentucky Emancipationists' sophistries. They are ever grateful to a man who will strengthen their hands to contend against the friends of freedom. The Kentucky Emancipationists have secured the great advantage of discussion, and they will not soon part with it, but we hope, continue to agitate, until the light, until the shadow of a slave shall not be found within the borders of the State.

Leicester, Ky., August 28, 1849.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28, 1849.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Tyr, or The End of Fide," a poem, we intend to publish in our next.

"New England," by George W. Putnam, will appear soon.

"Oriel"—her favors thankfully received.

Other poems, previously noticed, will yet find place.

We have also on hand several valuable prose contributions, among them some articles on education. They will be duly attended to.

THE FRIEND OF YOUTH.

The first number of the "Friend of Youth," by Mrs. Bailey, will be issued next week. It is desirable that subscriptions be forwarded without delay.

THE PROMISED STORY BY MRS. SOUTHWORTH.

We promised our readers two months since a story from Mrs. SOUTHWORTH, expecting that it would be commenced in a few weeks. A previous engagement with a Philadelphia periodical has occasioned delay, as her health forbade the attempt to carry on her works at the same time. She now informs us that she will be ready to fulfill her engagement with the Era by the first or second week in November. She has many admirers among our readers, and we are pleased at the prospect of being able soon to gratify them with a tale from her pen, exhibiting the nature and tendency of Fide and its consequence.

EMANCIPATION IN KENTUCKY.—The article on our first page, on the state of the Emancipation question in Kentucky, is from the pen of an influential citizen of that State, and presents a very encouraging view of the subject.

The poem on our first page, contributed by an unknown correspondent, will attract some attention.

JAMES B. HOLMES, Periodical Agent, 3d street, Pittsburgh, has constantly on hand, for sale, copies of the National Era, for which, also, he is authorized to receive subscriptions.

We call attention to an advertisement by Mrs. Emily H. Stockton, in another column. A better boarding-house cannot be found in Philadelphia. We say this for the benefit of our friends who occasionally visit Philadelphia, and who are fond of a select table and polite entertainment.

ANNEXATION OF THE CANADAS.

We publish on our first page the address referred to in our last, in favor of the annexation of Canada to this country. It is a calm, strong, decisive document, and will arouse the British Government to serious thought upon the subject. It was signed at first by three hundred and twenty-five of the first men in Montreal, but the number was soon increased to twelve hundred. An opposition manifesto has since been got out, which is signed by five or six hundred, some members of Parliament. One of the Canadian papers publishes it with the names, and appended to the names the Government salaries received by those bearing them.

The Montreal Witness, a religious newspaper, has commenced the publication of a series of papers on things necessary to be accomplished as preliminary to annexation.

The Charleston Evening News thinks that the British Government will veto the project, but that, should it acquiesce, this country would not consent to it.

Were Great Britain willing, and the Canadas should make the proposal, an Administration that would interpose obstacles to the Union would not stand a month. The People would move it down.

"PENINSULAR FREEMAN."

We have received the first number of a new and handsome weekly paper, under the above title, just commenced at Detroit, Michigan, by Robert McBratney and James D. Liggett, editors and proprietors. Its editorial columns show decided ability, and its selections are characterized by good taste. It carries at its head the Free Soil ticket for State officers, and vigorously advocates the principles of the Buffalo Convention. We rejoice that the Free Democracy of Michigan is to be represented by such a journal. Owing to the lack of a local organ, it has labored under great disadvantages. The worthy editors remark in their salutatory:

"Our political creed is embraced in the principles set forth by the National Convention of the Free Democracy of 1848, and the platform of State policy adopted by the Free Democracy of Michigan, at Jackson, on the 20th of June last, both of which will be found in other columns. Believing the principles therein embodied to be the principles which should characterize our National and State policy, we have cordially lent them, in each and every particular, such support as we are capable of affording."

"In conclusion, we wish to be distinctly understood that we do not embark in the enterprise of editing and publishing a newspaper without the hope of a pecuniary compensation. We claim the right to live by the altar at which we minister. With this brief exposition, we leave our readers, our humble salutation, hoping that our future intercourse may be both pleasant and profitable to you, to us, and to the public generally."

The terms of the paper are, \$2 annually in advance; \$2.50 after its expiration; to clubs of five or more, \$1.75, in advance.

The New York Evening Post has laid under obligations by its kind notice of the "Friend of Youth," especially as the gentleman who formerly conducted the Era, and was nearly related to the late editor of the Friend of Youth, owned the Era at present, and also continues to sustain the same agreeable relation. Your types must have been mystified, friend of the Post.

The Lynn News, noticing the communication of a Case Democrats in our columns some time since, remarks that, "even the National Era recommends a bill extending slavery into the Territories, if, by that means, Taylor may be defeated."

It is difficult for us to understand how the News could so far mistake us; for certainly it does not wish to misrepresent us. We have never recommended anything of the kind. We wish to see no bill passed, except to prohibit the extension of slavery; and that we would have passed, not to defeat Taylor, but to secure the triumph of Freedom.

WASHINGTON.—The whole number of votes cast at the election in Vermont for Governor was 22,066. Carlos Codrington, the Whig candidate, received 26,395, or thirty-six votes less than a majority.

DANGER AHEAD—FREEMEN FALTERING.

Why is it that we have no satisfactory intelligence from California in relation to slavery? That slaves have been carried there, we know; but what has become of them? Have they been free, or are they still held in bondage? Not a word is said about them in papers or in letters from that country. What are the purposes of the People? Is there a man in the Territory who takes any interest in the question? Why is it that the anti-slavery adventurers, now settled there, communicate nothing on the subject? The People of the Territory know that the only reason why a Government has not been granted them, is that the slaveholders will not consent to the extension of their slave system into the Territory, and yet, in the files of papers we receive, in the numerous letters published in our exchanges, we can detect nothing that indicates any serious attention of the Californian public to this matter.

What means all this? Is gold hunting so absorbing an occupation as to leave no time for considering great questions affecting the permanent interests of the new State? Have all the People there become so dull and groggy, willing that they should be governed by the slaveholders, and shape the Government to suit themselves or their employers at home, so that they be left free to herd their golden treasures?

We said last week that Northern men have gone to California to dig for gold, slaveholders, to rule; power being the god of one class, and the idol of the other. Is it not so? Who are the prime actors in the movement for a State Constitution? Thomas Butler King, of Georgia, Dr. G. W. of Mississippi, Peter H. Burnett, of California, Governor Briggs of Missouri. They are all men of position, all, pro-slavery men. What Northern man of equal position and influence is there on the spot, to represent the claims of Freedom?

The pro-slavery ticket, it is understood, triumphed in San Francisco: why should it not? Is it to be expected that the blacklegs who infest that place, will attempt to do the right man? The last accounts reported that Dr. G. W. of Mississippi would be chosen President of the Convention—but this is the man who in one of the primary meetings of the People had the hardihood to denounce the anti-slavery members of the Congress of the United States for attempting to apply the Ordinance of 1787 to California. Next, it is reported that Thomas Butler King, Dr. G. W. of Mississippi, Governor Briggs of Missouri, who were a relative to that State telling him, that a few slaves could be used to advantage in the Territory, and Ex-Governor Shannon, a Hunter Democrat, are talked of as Senators from the new State. God deliver us! And would the People of California, if hostile to slavery, commit their interests to the keeping of such men?

But, we are told that slavery cannot exist in California. Who says so? He who would lull the public mind into a false security. Slavery does exist there. Who attempts to dispute it? An extract of a letter from H. H. Robinson, late of the Ohio Eagle, a Hunter Democrat, informing the People of the States that they need not trouble themselves about the matter—the Californians won't have slavery there, &c.—has been going the rounds of the papers. Mr. Robinson has always been hostile to the anti-slavery cause; he was and is a Non-Interventionist; and, we doubt not, could he have his way, the Constitution of the new State would contain no restrictive clause against slavery. His testimony on this subject, which he does not understand and in which he feels no interest, has no weight with us. Nor do we attach any credit to the loose paragraphs of a similar kind from unknown writers, every now and then started by some newspaper in favor of the non-intervention policy; nor do we believe the writers, for we are sure, and we shall know what consideration their opinions deserve.

A letter in one of the New York dailies informed us that there were three parties in the Convention, one in favor of recognizing slavery, another, of positive prohibition, the third, in favor of saying, doing nothing, or, other words, non-intervention. How happens it, if the people of California are so unanimous against slavery, that their representatives should be so divided? Non-Intervention is equivalent to the positive recognition of slavery. We know all about the law of the case—about free territory remaining free, until made otherwise by positive law—but we know, too, that slavery despises all these abstractions in favor of liberty, every principle of the Common Law, every doctrine of Natural Rights. Where the door is not shut in its face, it enters boldly, without asking leave, and, once in possession, pleads an insuperable right of property. Non-Intervention is the trick of demagogues, the shelter of cowards. It will find plenty of advocates in California, and we should not be surprised if the next arrival bring the intelligence that a Constitution has been formed for the new State without a word in relation to slavery. Has not this thing been done already? The saintly brotherhood of Mormons, settled in the southern part of California, have struck out the boundaries of a new State, to be called the State of Deseret. Their Constitution contains not a single provision against slavery. They ask admission into our Union, hoping, no doubt, to gain the support of the Congress of the United States from the North, and the slaveholding members, by their prudent and affable policy of setting up no barrier against the irruptions of slavery. Aye—may they not hope for the support of Northern Whigs who recognize the National Intelligencer as their organ? Has not this paper, solemnly, emphatically, speaking in behalf of the Whig party, pledged it to abide by the decision of the People of California on the slavery question, whatever the decision may be—whether against, or in favor of, non-intervention in relation to it? It has done so, and we have yet to hear the Whig party, North or South, express dissent. The editor of the New York Tribune, whose professions are all ardent for Free Soil, must have read that pledge, made publicly for him as well as his brethren, and in view of all this, should California escape the Curse which has fastened upon the wiles of one half of the country, and the morals of the whole, it will be through the good Providence of God. If nothing stood in its way, but the journalism, and politics, and religion of the North, they would be as chaff before the devouring fire.

For, what are the spiritual and political leaders of the North doing to investigate public sentiment on this great question of Human Rights? They are preaching peace; crying, all's well. The Whig journalist can find nothing to denounce but the Free Soil "factionists," and the Democratic journalist is trying to suppress or remove all agitations and distractions about slavery, so that the brotherhood may once more obtain control of the spoils of office. A year ago there were indications that a new life was about to be breathed into the cause, but the lie has been repeated so often that there is no danger—the Proviso is a humbug, the agitation is all about nothing, slavery cannot go to California, &c.—that the People begin to think they may safely abstain from any active measures of prevention. Would to Heaven the strife were over, and the victory won for Freedom! But, suppose the Whigs, through Senators, State Legislatures, and seeking admission as a State, next winter, with a Constitution silent on the subject of slavery, what would be the result? Are the friends of freedom prepared to say what they would do in that contingency? Would their representatives be united? Have they contented the possibility of such an event? Have they prepared themselves for action in case of emergency? Just the reverse has been the case. They have lowered the tone of the public mind; they have diverted it from the question of slavery; they have promoted dissensions among the friends of freedom, and divided their efforts.

Perhaps we take too gloomy a view of the state of things, and may be needlessly alarmed. We hope the result may be better than our apprehensions. But, we cannot but fear the worst, when we see such surrenders and union in the ranks of the pro-slavery men, and such dissensions, such false confidence, such indifference, such a want of concert, and such treachery, among the opponents of slavery.

Having written thus far, we received the New York Tribune of the 17th, which furnishes an answer to some of the inquiries in the foregoing article. We wished to know what the Whigs would do to the cause of Liberty, with the aid of the Tribune, representing what little of efficient anti-slavery sentiment there is in the Whig party, informs us. We beg the attention of the People to the following extraordinary declaration. It occurs in an electioneering editorial of the Tribune, in which with Pharisaical self-righteousness the editor is contrasting the services of his party to the cause of Liberty, with the treachery of the "Loosefoot"—the Whig party, he says, to Heaven, and looking down on his brethren as holy and unspotted; and not sinners like the Loosefoot unpunished:

"Since that time, we have seen many mutations, and passed through another Presidential struggle, a struggle not devoid of perplexities, but in which we took the course best calculated to subvert the great end of keeping the New Territories pure from the taint of slavery. The end, so far as the vast region stretching west of the Rio Grande to the Pacific, is now plain to all. There is to be no slavery—there can be no slave-laws—in all California and the vast region spreading thence to the Gulf of Mexico. The resistance organized under the banner of the Wilcox Proviso has been the great end of keeping the New Territories pure from the taint of slavery. The end, so far as the vast region stretching west of the Rio Grande to the Pacific, is now plain to all. There is to be no slavery—there can be no slave-laws—in all California and the vast region spreading thence to the Gulf of Mexico. 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